

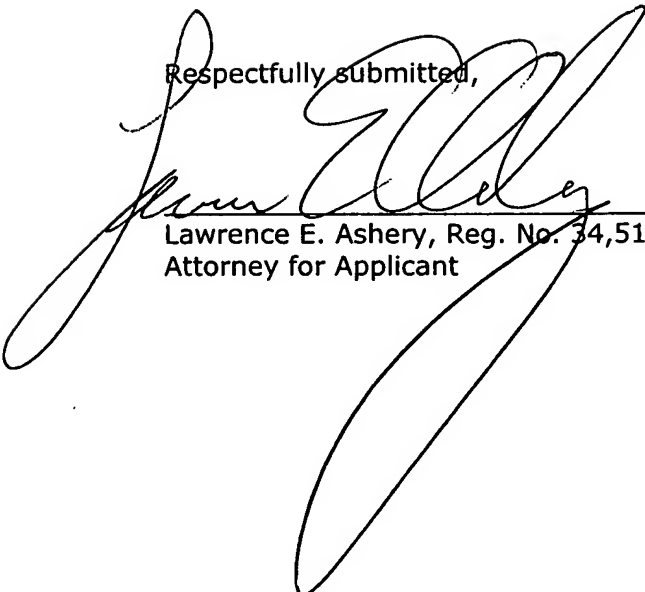
Amendment to the Abstract:

The Abstract has been amended. A revised Abstract is attached.

An image input device is provided with: an image input part into which an image is entered; an image evaluation part which evaluates the image quality or subject of the image by using a predetermined threshold value; a cause determination part which determines the cause of image degradation corresponding to the image, based on the evaluation result of the image by the image evaluation part; an output part which outputs to the user a predetermined question; a cause input part into which an answer to the question is entered; and a cause comparison part which determines whether a match occurs or not between the cause of image degradation and the cause of image degradation corresponding to the answer. ~~In a case where the cause comparison part determines that the cause of image degradation and the cause of image degradation corresponding to the answer do not match with each other, the image evaluation part changes the predetermined threshold value used to evaluate the image so that the cause of image degradation and the cause of image degradation corresponding to the answer can match with each other.~~

Attachment

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicant

LEA:ds

Attachment: Abstract

Dated: February 16, 2005

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby
authorized to charge payment to Deposit
Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated
with this communication.

EXPRESS MAIL

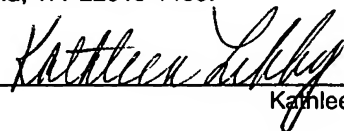
Mailing Label Number:

EV 547590927 US

Date of Deposit:

February 16, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Kathleen Libby

DAS_I:\MAT\8667US\PREAMEND.DOC

ABSTRACT

An image input device is provided with: an image input part into which an image is entered; an image evaluation part which evaluates the image quality or subject of the image by using a predetermined threshold value; a cause determination part which determines the cause of image degradation corresponding to the image, based on the evaluation result of the image by the image evaluation part; an output part which outputs to the user a predetermined question; a cause input part into which an answer to the question is entered; and a cause comparison part which determines whether a match occurs or not between the cause of image degradation and the cause of image degradation corresponding to the answer.